

Objective V: The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy have been developed



Working Together



Target 16: Institutions, networks and partnerships for plant conservation established or strengthened at national, regional and international levels to achieve the targets of this Strategy

Networks supporting plant conservation activities provide the means to share experiences, exchange data, encourage professional development and build the capacity of the plant conservation community.

Many different models exist for such networks, ranging from informal, sometimes transient efforts to share information or cooperate on specific projects, to large national and international associations with paid staff and secretariats.

Global Island Plant Conservation Network

This was established in 2010 in recognition of the fact that islands with a small land area and isolated location face particular plant conservation challenges. Although these small islands only make up some 5 per cent of the earth's land surface, about one fifth of all known plants – some 70,000 species – are endemic to islands. However, they

often have limited resources and fewer institutions than larger countries, so working together is essential. The Global Island Plant Conservation Network facilitates contact between botanical experts and the exchange of information, documents and experience. Electronic communication, especially email, is an important tool for a group whose members are located across great distances, and indeed in different oceans.

In some respects the GSPC itself could be called a grass-roots programme. Resulting from intensive networking between concerned individuals and organizations, it has also facilitated and strengthened networking as organizations respond to the Strategy. Most importantly, it has resulted in the establishment of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPC), which brings together international, regional and national organizations united in a desire to implement the GSPC.



Christopher K. Willis



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In-country partnerships

Several countries that have developed national responses to the GSPC have started by holding national stakeholder workshops, to identify the relevant individuals and organizations involved in delivering plant conservation targets. Building strong national networks involving all these key players is often pivotal in successful implementation of the GSPC.

Where are we now

The establishment of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation has successfully brought together the major international organizations working in plant conservation at the global level. However, some national and regional plant conservation networks have also been successfully developed:

- At the regional level, the Red Latinoamericana de Botánica has been very active in capacity building, education, conservation and sustainable use of plants throughout Central and South America.
- Similarly, good progress has been made in Australia and New Zealand through the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network and the Australian Network for Plant Conservation.

“You cannot produce results without effective partnerships.”

Bruce Jenks, UNDP



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- www.plants2020.net/gppc/
- www.bgci.org
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